

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

April 21, 1999 LB 605

Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Oh, I'm sorry. Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. I hope you were listening when Senator Kremer was speaking because he was exactly talking about what we discussed in Revenue Committee--the fact that price does determine market share. I think that was a good illustration of exactly why we're not seeing the sales in the state of Nebraska. I know that in Omaha, I can only speak for the stations that are near me in the city of Omaha, and price there is one to two cents higher. So, in our case, if they lowered it two cents, it would increase sales because it would be below the cost of the regular gasoline in the Omaha market. But Senator Kiel asked a lot of very, very good questions and the one thing I want to say to her is that the answer to those questions is "yes" with the committee amendments. In fact, the answer to whether we will have cleaner air in Nebraska will be a much more resounding "yes" if we increase market share in the state of Nebraska. If we increase production and send it outside of the state of Nebraska, it won't clean up our air at all. But if we can convince people to buy more at the pumps it will improve the air quality in the state of Nebraska. But every other one of her questions the committee amendments will address with a positive answer. They were excellent questions. I hope you were listening because it does impact the well-being of our industries throughout the state. But you have to understand that this question, while I am strongly going to support the committee amendments, this is a bill that I can't lose on because I'm an urban senator and I'm a very probusiness senator and, therefore, I'm very pleased to ever see any kind of business given an incentive or a credit. And I am hearing discussion that says that actually, when we looked at LB 775 and we looked at the criteria for applying for those and qualifying for those credits, are really far more restricted than what we're talking about here. So what I'm hearing my rural senators say to me is that, really, we need to start looking at incentive businesses with more credits when they don't come in with the amount of capital construction or employment opportunities that we have, up to this point, required. So I'll be very happy to come back next year and I'm sure that the business community will be very happy to introduce bills to see that businesses and economic expansion increases in the state of Nebraska. So I can